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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
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| 09/703,941 | 11/01/2000 | Douglas A. Graham | 3688-030 | 4046 |

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| EXAMINER | |
|---|---|
| WOO, ISAAC M | |

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|---|---|
| 2172 | 4 |

DATE MAILED: 03/26/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
|---|---|---|---|
| | 09/703,941 | GRAHAM, DOUGLAS A. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Isaac M Woo | 2172 | |

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *01 November 2000*.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-69* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-69* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____.

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103*

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1-69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ainsbury et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,078,924, hereinafter, "Ainsbury").

With respect to claims 1, 20-22, 27-33, 49-52 and 68-69, Aisbury discloses, searching for at least one database key identifies the at least one remote database accessible via a network of computer systems, see (section 1, Data Retrieval, col. 6, lines 40-67 to col. 7, lines 1-49, col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23); determining whether each remote database found during the searching is comprised of the desired type of data (14-18, web, desk top, notes, etc., fig. 1, different data type source), see (section 1, Data Retrieval, fig.1, col. 6, lines 40-67 to col. 7, lines 1-49); and storing location information for each remote database found during the searching if the remote database is comprised of the desired type of data, see (col. 7, lines 49-67 to col. 8, lines 1-49). Ainsbury discloses searching for at least one desired data type via a network of

computer systems, see (section 1, Data Retrieval, col. 6, lines 40-67 to col. 7, lines 1-49). Aisnbury does not explicitly disclose searching at least one database key identifies the at least one remote database. However, Ainsbury discloses collecting data from internal and external information (col. 6, lines 45-67), collecting data from database (col. 12, lines 1-25, col. 16, lines 43-53). This teaches database could be a remote database (internet web server is external web database). And Web server database has location address that is key of database identifies database. Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to include searching at least one database key identifies the at least one remote database in the system of the Aisnbury. Web database has an address (URL) that is used as key to locate in the Internet.

With respect to claims 2-3 and 11-12, Ainsbury discloses, selecting at least one remote database found during searching that is comprised of the desired type of data for use in a predetermined data analysis; retrieving data from the selected remote database via the network of computer systems; and using the data retrieved from the selected remote database in the predetermined data analysis; storing an indication that the remote database is comprised of data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis, see (col. 7, lines 3-67 to col. 8, lines 1-48, col. 6, lines 45-67).

With respect to claims 4-7 and 10, Ainsbury discloses, determining at a predetermined time interval whether the database has changed; and if the database has

changed, updating the predetermined data analysis using the changed data wherein the data that has been used in the predetermined data analysis is time series data, and the predetermined time interval is determined on the basis of the frequency of the time series data providing an indication to a predetermined user that the predetermined data analysis has been updated, see (col. 7, lines 42-67 to col. 8, lines 1-49).

With respect to claims 8-9, Ainsbury discloses, predetermined data analysis a forecast that is an economic, demographic or meteorological forecast, see (col. 7, lines 42-67 to col. 8, lines 1-49, col. 6, lines 45-67, col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23).

With respect to claims 13-15, Ainsbury discloses, receiving a specification of the desired type of time series data before searching and the storing, see (col. 7, lines 42-67 to col. 8, lines 1-49, col. 6, lines 45-67, col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23).

With respect to claims 16-19, Ainsbury discloses, determining information about at least one characteristic of the remote database; storing information that is frequency, data units, data scale, data source, data update, and number of data points; the remote database is determined from at least one XML data definition tag, see (col. 6, lines 45-67, col. 8, lines 50-67 to col. 9, lines 1-49, col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23).

With respect to claims 23-26, Ainsbury discloses, communications protocol, TCP/IP to access the at least one computer system and to process the information

retrieved from the at least one computer system; database formatting information to access the at least one computer system and to process the information retrieved from the at least one computer system; and database formatting information is comprised of a plurality of predefined database format definitions, see (col. 9, lines 50-67 to col. 10, lines 1-57, col. 6, lines 45-67, col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23).

With respect to claims 34-37, Ainsbury discloses, the characteristic information is a number of data points in the at least one time series of data; starting and ending time data; and time interval between each of the data points contained in the at least one time series of data, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claims 38-40, Ainsbury discloses, determining whether the at least one data series is redundant of a data series for which information has already been stored if the at least one data series is redundant of the data series for which information has already been stored, not storing information about the at least one data series if the at least one data series is redundant of the data series for which information has already been stored, storing information about the at least one data series and not storing information about the data series for which information has already been stored, see (col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23, col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claims 41-46, Ainsbury discloses, found during the searching: determining whether a correlation exists between at least some of the data of the

desired type contained in the at least one remote database and at least some of the data of the desired type contained in a predefined data set; and if the correlation exists, storing an indication of the correlation in association with stored location information for the at least one remote database with economic data, microeconomic data, demographic data and meteorological data, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59, col. 8, lines 50-67 to col. 9, lines 1-49).

With respect to claims 47-48, Ainsbury discloses, determining whether a correlation exists between at least some of the data of the desired type contained in the at least one remote database and at least some of the data of the desired type contained in a predefined data set; and if the correlation exists, storing an indication of the correlation in association with stored location information for the at least one remote database with economic data, microeconomic data, demographic data and meteorological data, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claims 51-55, Ainsbury discloses, the data type information indicates the type of data contained in the at least one remote database, the time series data type information being stored in association with the database key, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59, col. 8, lines 50-67 to col. 9, lines 1-49).

With respect to claims 56-60, Ainsbury discloses, the data series key uniquely identifies the at least one series of data; and location information for the at least one

series of data, the location information being stored in association with the time data series key, see (col. 10, lines 50-67 to col. 11, lines 1-23, col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claim 61, Ainsbury discloses, starting time of the at least one time series of data, the starting time being stored in association with the data series key; an ending time of the at least one time series ofdata, the ending time being stored in association with the data series key; and a time interval between each of the data points contained in the at least one time series of data, the time interval being stored in association with the data series key, see (col. 8, lines 50-67 to col. 9, lines 1-49, col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claims 62-64, Ainsbury discloses, the data series update information is comprised of information about when the at least one data series was last updated, the data series update information being stored in association with the data series key; information about the format of the at least one series of data contained in the at least one remote database, and the data series format information being stored in association with the data series key, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59).

With respect to claims 65-67, Ainsbury discloses, the database subscription information is comprised of information about whether payment is required to access the data contained in the at least one remote database; the database access

authorization information is comprised of information necessary to access the data contained in the at least one remote database; the database access authorization information is comprised of user identification information and a password, see (col. 13, lines 21-67 to col. 14, lines 1-59, col. 9, lines 50-67 to col. 10, lines 1-57).

***Conclusion***

3. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Roberson (U.S. Patent No. 6,016,496) discloses the system for creating an object-oriented object with the ability to retrieve database type information from either a local source, or a remote source across an Internet connection via TCP/IP without the knowledge of the invoking object. The object is instanced with a well defined interface containing only primitives. All messages sent to and replies from the object are broken into primitives. The object works normally for local request. However, for request to use a server, the object utilizes a private method to open a connection with the remote server and transmit relevant instance information. The server then creates the requested object locally on the server and invokes the desired method(s). Responses to the method(s) are sent back to the client's private method, which formats the data, and hands it to the calling method.

***Contact Information***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Isaac M Woo whose telephone number is (703) 305-0081. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John E Breene can be reached on (703) 305-9790. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

IMW
March 10, 2004

SHAHID ALAM
PRIMARY EXAMINER